

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE
PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,
AND THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received from the 17th to the 24th of February, 1869.

THE *Malwa Akhbar*, of the 10th of February, after extracts from English papers, notices the desire of the Maharajah of Rewah to obtain the services of an European Agent to manage his estates. It is said by some that the Maharajah wishes to get Colonel Murray, of the 14th Bengal Cavalry; and the writer wonders that the Maharajah's choice should have fallen upon that officer, as he, the writer, asks if there is no one to be got more fitted for the work among the Hindoostanees, that he is so anxious for an English Agent over his State. "If the Maharajah would only repose confidence in Rajah Dinkur Rao, and make over the work to him, he would act rightly, and have no cause to regret the step. The Travancore Chief had a great desire to get out an Englishman, but his work has been all done by Hindoostanees; and how well that work has been done, and how famous he has become! We are certain that the Maharajah will know what we say to be correct; and we think it only proper that he should lean towards Hindoostanees, and give them the work, in order that it may be proved that Hindoostanees can at least do something. The Rajah Dinkur Rao is just now at Allahabad, for the purpose of celebrating the marriage of his child."

Referring to the *Pioneer's* remarks concerning the Dhar Territory, and Mr. Dickenson's successful exertions to get it restored to the Maharajah, the *Friend of India* is quoted, to

the effect that "the Maharajah gave Mr. Dickenson as a bribe one lakh of rupees, the truth of which Mr. Dickenson denied through the English papers," &c., &c. The writer remarks that the Rajah ought to do something in recognition of the important services rendered by Mr. Dickenson, and that it is very wrong of the *Friend of India* to cast such a slur upon the fame of such a respectable gentleman. He goes on to say—"In the same way this paper (the *Friend of India*?) mentioned that the Rajah had given Rao Bhow Sahib and Rao Ram Chunder fifty thousand rupees in the very same case, which is also false; and Bhow Sahib had the real state of the case published in the *Delhi Gazette*, showing that at the time of the confiscation (or attachment) of Dhar, some twenty-five thousand rupees, which had been borrowed from some bankers (Seth Himmudt Ram and Savic Ram), was the sum the Rajah paid back. From this it appears that both these statements of the *Friend of India* are quite untrue."

The *Julwatore*, of the 11th of February, does not offer anything worthy of comment.

The *Unjumun Hind*, of the 13th of February, after extracts from English papers, remarks that the Government of France, in some things, acts quite inadvertently, and blunders very much. "The present Emperor was placed on the throne amid much bloodshed, because by right he had no claim to it; but he was a fortunate man, and thousands of people were sacrificed for him," &c., &c. The writer goes on thus to introduce his subject, and then to mention that a Chief named Bodan was killed during these disturbances, and that some of his friends who are alive wished to get up a demonstration, or subscribe towards a monument, &c., which displeased the Emperor very much, and he seized and punished the originators, &c., &c. The article is taken from an English paper, and refers to the Baudin affair in France, and the establishment of a new paper called the *Lantern of Light*, in which animadversions on the Emperor are to be found. He goes on to say—

"Heading each paper and page is a drawing of a lantern, in which is seen a human face, with the crown surmounting it, and this drawing is intended to represent the Emperor," &c., &c. It is said that although everything is done to detect the authors of this, nothing proves availing, but that the papers is eagerly sought after, so much so that each copy fetches from 20 to 30, and even at those prices is not to be had. He goes on—"Wah! what kinds of authors there are! and how full of appreciation these people are, and how wise and prudent! One thing is worthy of reflection, that if the Emperor had in the first instance let well alone, all would have been well. Had a little money been expended in erecting a memorial to Baudin, nothing very great would have come of it. But this was prevented, and by this very prevention, the thing has assumed an importance it should not have possessed; we have heard of it even in the city of Lahore. This is an opportunity for looking into the liberality and foreseeing policy of our Government. How this business bears a resemblance to the raids of the Kookee tribe; for if ever so little hindrance had been shown, there is no doubt that the encouragement to them would have been a hundredfold. It should be remembered that as the ignorant-minded become heated, so in the same way they cool down again; and there is no doubt that whatever the religion may be, so long as it be true, however we may do our best to prevent its spreading, it will show its truthfulness," &c., &c.

It is said that at one of the schools at Peshawar some six hundred Affghans are being educated; but that at the time the report was drawn out some two hundred and sixty-three only were present. The writer remarks that this "large number of pupils is to be wondered at, especially when we compare it with the numbers who present themselves in other schools."

The *Khair Khwah Punjab*, of the 16th of February, offers some remarks upon the ignorance of Native *hakeems* (physicians), and the danger resulting from their being allowed

to practice on the people of Hindoostan. The writer, in noticing this subject, more especially alludes to Kangra, and says that "it is lamentable how these ignorant men are permitted to play with the lives of the people in this district. If the Government would but look into the evil with the view of remedying it, much good would result; and, like Sealkote, if paid *hakeems* were established, many a poor wretch would be saved from death at the hands of these cruel tyrants," &c., &c. The writer concludes by a statement of the result of this treatment upon the hill people, who are given the most heating drinks because they inhabit a cold climate, &c., &c.

The *Muir Gazette*, of the 16th of February, publishes an article on the propriety of being educated, heading the article "Examination of the District Schools, &c., by the Lieutenant-Governor, North-Western Provinces, and Lady Muir." It is remarked that these distinguished personages expressed themselves highly pleased and gratified by the ceremony. The head-master of the Serai Meera is said to have had a handsome watch presented to him as a mark of respect, which was accompanied by a complimentary speech, &c., &c. The Editor remarks—"How can it be otherwise than that education should prosper, when two such great people take so much trouble, and enter heartily into it, giving encouragement by so much kindness towards those whose duty it is to teach; and as fond as the Lieutenant-Governor is of that light called knowledge, the Director Sahib is as ready to assist him: then it is now the time for our countrymen to look upon this as a bountiful age for them, and in doing so, let them not forget the advantages of education; for there are many people who, the moment their children have acquired a little knowledge, think them quite able to work for their living, and thus are they led on to believe that they are very learned men; but such people ought to make their children learn from the beginning to the end, and have them properly educated."

The sudden death of the Chobey Bidree Dass, of Moradabad, who was staying with one Shorajee Singh, *dákwallah*, is noticed. Death was supposed to be from cholera, and was reported as such ; but as the body was burned before the notice was given, the Magistrate suspected that something was wrong, and sent Shorajee Singh to jail. " Enquiries are being made, and the people are giving out various opinions concerning the death of this person, and perhaps the case will be made over to the Sessions, but we are sure that all these ideas are false. The real truth is this, that when the Chobey Sahib was attacked with cholera, Shorajee Singh gave him medicines—both Native and English—but they were of no avail ; he then sent the sufferer off to Moradabad ; on the road the Chobey Sahib died, and as the day was nearly over, the servant with him had the corpse burned. Some people say that the Chowdry Shorajee Singh is in debt to the late Chobey, and this is the key to the mystery ; but this should not be believed, as by the death of the Chobey the debt will not be liquidated. Others say, that the deceased had something valuable in his possession, and that the Chowdry was tempted to evil by this ; but it was fate that brought the hour of death, and evil name to Shorajee Singh. We feel sure that when the case is thoroughly investigated, the Chowdry will be exonerated from all blame." It is added that English *vakeels* (agents) have been engaged to defend the Chowdry, and have arrived from Agra.

The *Rahnoomai Punjab*, of the 12th of February, does not require particular notice.

The *Sadiq-ool Ukhbar*, of the 13th of February, reports that the Emperor of France said in his Durbar that " France is in every way ready, with sword in hand ; and although there is no desire to shed blood needlessly, still there is no desire to be unmanly. The truth is this, that when knowing and artful France shuts its eyes, then all

England will be in consternation, and in Europe no doubt great justice will be dealt."

The *Karnama Hind*, of the 15th of February, quotes the *Ukmil-ool Ukhbar*, to the effect that for the Turkish empire these are most delicate times: the writer refers to the probable chances of other powers interfering with that country, as well as its state of poverty, &c., &c.

The *Moofeed-ool Anam*, of the 11th of February, does not require particular notice. The capture of a noted rebel in the Humeerpore District, by the District Superintendent of Police, is reported. The writer adds his conviction that "there are now no other rebels left."

The *Dubduba Secundree*, of the 13th of February, complains of misrule, thefts, and gambling, being prevalent in Gwalior.

The *Rohilkund Ukhbar*, of the 13th of February, the *Noor-ool Ubsar* of the 15th, and the *Nusseem Jounpore* of the 16th, do not require particular notice.

The *Sholatore*, of the 16th of February, remarks that many people in Cabul are very much dissatisfied with the Ameer Shere Ali Khan "for having formed friendship with the English Government, and accepted their request to keep English troops at Jellalabad, Cabul, and Candahar. The Ghilzie tribe are most dissatisfied at it, and a Sirdar (Chief) of high rank and standing, named Ursalla Khan, has stated in presence of the Ameer Sahib the fear, or danger, attached to this movement. A great many Kohistanees, and several of the Chief Sirdars of the Cabul Durbar, object to this plan, but the Ameer Sahib cares not for their displeasure."

The *Ukmil-ool Ukhbar*, of the 17th of February, after extracts from English papers, and the publication of stale intelligence, publishes the following mysterious paragraph:—"It is said that the results of *khana shumari* (counting houses, or taking the census probably) at Lucknow has had no good effect, but that on the contrary has been productive

of much evil; and this is quite true, for bad characters have adopted the plan of walking into people's houses in the garb of moonshees of this Department, and taking the opportunity of stealing. But the general opinion is that Government has some hidden object in doing this."

The *Oudh Ukhbar*, of the 16th of February, notices that the "Relief Committee of Agra have collected Rupees 3,100, and that Brahmins are employed to cook bread, which is daily distributed to the poor."

The following then appears:—"The Rajah Jotee Pershad Sahib having lost a box of jewels, which has been stolen by some women travelling by rail, had no wish to say any more on the subject; but the Magistrate having established a case of theft on one woman, 'Ranee,' has confined her as a *pur-dahnasheen* (screened woman) in a room by herself at the Agra hospital; and on finding security to the extent of Rupees 500 she has been set free; and now English lawyers have been engaged on both sides to settle this case."

An Oodeypoor correspondent of this paper writes as follows:—"The case of the Mahunt Sahib, already noticed in the papers, is getting hotter in the bazar. Thakoor Zalim Singh, Foujdar of Oodeypoor, bears a true name, and in the working of that name he stands first. Out of 150 or 200 of the Mogeihan tribes he has kept as servants, on from Rupees 30 to Rupees 40 a month, which he makes the Rana Sahib pay, because these people know the bad characters well, and will be able to catch them when required. To outward appearance it seems like deceit, used before those who know no better; but really and secretly these people are occupied in stealing and bringing in stolen property from the Mofussil; and now, by degrees, thefts have reached the city, and in lanes and streets the poor are plundered. At last the stolen property of some one has been discovered, in the case of some three maunds of opium which were stolen; and a servant on Rupees 60 per month having taken it next day to sell in the bazar, the man was taken to the Kotwallee

where he made a clean breast of it, and mentioned that this sort of work had been going on for some time, through the assistance of Zalim Singh: this has reached the ears of the Rana Sahib and the Sahib Agent, and it is said that very strict orders have reached the Rana Sahib concerning this Fouzdar." The Editor adds that "when *Musih* (our Lord Christ) becomes the enemy of one's life, how can we live? A Fouzdar is supposed to be the protector of life and property, but here the case is very different. To our thinking this Fouzdar has done nothing; all that has been done has been done by his name alone. Henceforth it would be fair in him to call himself Adul Singh, and get his faults pardoned by the Rana Sahib."

This paper offers some remarks upon the policy of Ameer Shere Ali accepting the proposition of the British Government that European troops should be kept up against the wish of all Affghanisthan; and adds that, "until all are of one mind on this point, the Ameer should not give up all merely for the sake of *one party*. Moreover, it is argued, if all the country should be willing, still even then it would be more becoming to keep clear of such people, because the wise have said that those to whom these people show friendship stand not in need of enemies; and in respect to them it is a clear case of *baigun* (an oval vegetable) in a plate, which will roll from side to side; and as to relying upon their remaining firm to one party (or side) the thing is absurd. Their friendship and enmity are both like a thing reflected on the waters; and although they are generally ignorant (or uneducated) they are most clever as regards their own interests. We have made a mistake in saying that their friendship even is such, but their enmity is even more; it is more properly like an engraving in stone—indelible; it will last for generations. A thousand oaths are taken, but when the opportunity comes they are sure to take revenge. They are also like crows, for when one begins to caw, their brethren are ready on all sides to join in the cry. For ages past no

other creed but their own has been allowed to rule them, and if any one has interfered with them, the result has been loss, instead of gain, by those who did so. The wise men of former times have always compared them in their habits to wild beasts, for when the opportunity comes, even their women arm themselves and turn out to fight. These people are very unmerciful; to kill a man and to cut down grass is all the same to them, and they will always lean towards the heaviest scale in the balance. From the above, it does not appear that all risk of danger will be removed; but it is possible that the disturbance will be reversed, and then it will be like the King who, instead of an army, kept *moulvies* (priest). We have nothing to say to the gifts the *Sirkar* has given, or intends to give, because Kings ought to do so; but for an European force to remain in that country is fraught with great danger, and will result in loss. The roads by which Alexander the Great and of Afrasiyab (an ancient prince of Teheran) is by Cashmere; it is necessary therefore for its protection that a camp should be formed, and to our thinking it would be quite right to place an English force there, because the climate is also favorable, and the Maharajah Sahib of that place is a true-hearted friend of the Government. It was very different when those who attacked Hindoostan took possession at once without much trouble, because there were troops (or numbers) of Kings in those days belonging to the country, but now those days are gone; with God's blessing the King is *one*, and good too, and the army is also efficient, with clever officers, Civil and Military; full treasury, and countless the wealth, and the people well-wishers from their hearts; with all great and small Chiefs, the customs are good: each fort will be supplied with munitions of war, and the roads are perfect, so how can any one face this way?"

The *Nujm-ool Ukhbar*, of the 17th of February, does not require particular notice.

The *Naiyar Ukhbar* quotes the *Zea-ool Ukhbar*, and says that English people too have taken to the profession of dacoits

(highway robbers); that they are in number about 200, and carry pistols and clubs—some having been captured. The attention of Government is directed to these people, and preventive measures prayed for.

The *Allyghur Institute Gazette*, of the 19th of February, publishes in English a continuation of the correspondence between Moulvie Syud Khan Bahadoor and Saroda Prasad Sandel, concerning the Court languages used in the North-Western Provinces: the former correspondence was dated so far back as the 27th of November 1868.

The *Zea-ool Ukhbar*, of the 20th of February, mentions that a correspondent complains that matters are getting worse and worse daily in the Puttialla State. There is said to be great enmity between the agents of the State.

The King of Persia is said to have asked the Government for a few ships-of-war, with good and able officers for his army. The writer adds —“ It is the King's desire to have his army disciplined, as it is not just now in fighting order. The Government should in such a case comply with this request, otherwise the Russians will attack him (the King of Persia), and take possession of his country. The Government ought not to allow the Russians to interfere with that country; in preventing it, there would be a great name for the Government, and the King, too, would be grateful for it.” The Editor does not think the above correct.

The *Oordoo Delhi Gazette* of the 20th of February, the *Ukhbar Alum* of the 18th, the *Punjabee Ukhbar* of the 19th, the *Lawrence Gazette* of the 20th, the *Mujm-ool Bharain* of the 20th, the *Koh-i-Noor* of the 20th, the *Unjumun Hind* of the 6th, the *Kaleid Ummed* of the 12th, the *Malwa Ukhbar* of the 17th, and the *Rainoomai Punjab* of the 19th, do not require particular notice. The *Mujm-ool Bharain* referring to the new rules concerning the Oudh Talookdars, says that “there is some chance of a lawsuit being brought by the cultivators; and at the end, Lord Mayo, the new Governor General, will have to settle the question.”

The *Kaleid Ummed* of the 20th of February, after much that is mere reprint, mentions that one Elahee Buksh, meat *gomashta* of the Commissariat slaughter-house at Rawul Pindie, has "met with very bad treatment at the hands of Mahomed Shuffee, the former contractor's son : one bit of news of such a nature reached the Government at Lahore in such a way that the morning had not time to dawn before all his property, jewellery, &c., were confiscated, or seized ; the two brothers, with the Moonshee Abdool Sitar, Mahomed Ghose Hafiz, and one Moolla, were taken into custody ; and it is said that all the Sirdars of the time of Mahomed Shuffee at Sealkote, Nowshera, and Peshawar, have been imprisoned at each place in the same way. The real facts of the case are not known. The man Shubratee, brother of Elahee Buksh, has been let out on bail, his surety being Shumsho Deen, butcher. God grant that all may be well ! Some papers are being searched for, and if we get any further news, we will make it known next week."

The *Unjumun Hind*, of the 20th of February, does not call for particular notice.

The *Benares Ukhbar*, of the 18th of February, after publishing matter of no political importance, mentions that Peesagun Rajah Kullian Singh Jee, who was an Honorary Magistrate, and made a respectable *Kotwal* without pay, has been removed from that grade.

It is noticed that Lord Napier was about to visit Sattara, and that the carriage of the Political Agent had been sent to him, &c.

The affairs of the Nawab of the Carnatic are noticed. It is said that the Government has kept them in its own hands, and for this grievance a European was about to go to London ; but the Bombay Association having taken it up, there is no necessity for it at present.

The story concerning the shutting-up of a child until it died from starvation, at Tanjore, is re-printed. The outrage was committed, or said to be, at the instigation of a priest who died two days before the child.

The conversion of some Natives to Christianity is noticed. The convert in one instance is "a very wealthy Nawab Sahib, a Resident of Cawnpore, together with his family; the other a high caste Brahmin, at Delhi city; the latter by Tara Chund, Padree.

The report of many thousand head of cattle being poisoned in Bengal for the sake of their skins is noticed.

The following vernacular newspapers have been examined in this Report, viz :—

Number.	Name of Paper.	Where published.	Date.	When received.
			1869.	1869.
1	<i>Malwa Ukhbar</i> ...	Indore ...	Jan. 10th	Feb. 17th
2	<i>Julwatore</i> ...	Meerut ...	" 11th	" 17th
3	<i>Unjumun Hind</i> ...	Lucknow ...	" 13th	" 17th
4	<i>Khair Khwah Punjab</i> ...	Goojranwalla ...	" 13th	" 17th
5	<i>Muir Gazette</i> ...	Meerut ...	" 16th	" 17th
6	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab</i> ...	Sealkote ...	" 12th	" 18th
7	<i>Sadiq-ool Ukhbar</i> ...	Bhawulpore ...	" 13th	" 18th
8	<i>Karnama Hind</i> ...	Lucknow ...	" 15th	" 18th
9	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam</i> ...	Futtehghur ...	" 11th	" 19th
10	<i>Dubduba Secundree</i> ...	Rampore ...	" 13th	" 19th
11	<i>Rohilkund Ukhbar</i> ...	Moradabad ...	" 13th	" 19th
12	<i>Noor-ool Ubsar</i> ...	Allahabad ...	" 15th	" 19th
13	<i>Nusseem Jounpoor</i> ...	Jounpoor ...	" 16th	" 19th
14	<i>Sholatore</i> ...	Cawnpore ...	" 16th	" 19th
15	<i>Ukmil-ool Ukhbar</i> ...	Delhi ...	" 17th	" 20th
16	<i>Oudh Ukhbar</i> ...	Lucknow ...	" 16th	" 21st
17	<i>Nujm-ool Ukhbar</i> ...	Meerut ...	" 17th	" 21st
18	<i>Naiyar Ukhbar</i> ...	Bijnour ...	" 18th	" 21st
19	<i>Allyghur Institute Gazette</i> ...	Allyghur ...	" 19th	" 21st
20	<i>Zea-ool Ukhbar</i> ...	Delhi ...	" 20th	" 21st
21	<i>Oordoo and Delhi Gazette</i> ...	Agra ...	" 20th	" 21st
22	<i>Ukhbar Alum</i> ...	Meerut ...	" 18th	" 22nd
23	<i>Punjabee Ukhbar</i> ...	Lahore ...	" 19th	" 22nd
24	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> ...	Meerut ...	" 20th	" 22nd
25	<i>Mujma-ool Bharain</i> ...	Loodiana ...	" 20th	" 22nd
26	<i>Koh-i-Noor</i> ...	Lahore ...	" 20th	" 23rd
27	<i>Unjumun Hind</i> ...	Lucknow ...	" 6th	" 24th
28	<i>Kaleid Ummed</i> ...	Lahore ...	" 13th	" 24th
29	<i>Malwa Ukhbar</i> ...	Indore ...	" 17th	" 24th
30	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab</i> ...	Sealkote ...	" 19th	" 24th
31	<i>Kaleid Ummed</i> ...	Lahore ...	" 20th	" 24th
32	<i>Unjumun Hind</i> ...	Lucknow ...	" 20th	" 24th
33	<i>Benares Ukhbar (Nagree)</i> ...	Benares ...	" 18th	" 22nd
34	<i>Murdhurmint</i> " ...	Joudpore ...	" 15th	" 23rd

(True translation.)

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Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press,
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DELHI;
The 8th March 1869. }